



Town of Rowe  
**Finance Committee Minutes**  
Tuesday, November 9, 2021–6:00 p.m.  
Rowe Town Hall – Hearing Room 1

**Finance Committee:** Dan Pallotta, Chair, Wayne Zavotka (participating via emote, Loretta Dionne (participating via remote), C. Selmi Hyytinen (from 6:28 pm to 6:36 pm)  
**Board of Selectmen:** Chair Charles Sokol, Vice-Chair Joanne Semanie, Selectman Ed Silva  
**Present:** Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau, Via Remote Participation: Assessors Chair Rick Williams, Treasurer Terry I Green, Accountant David Fierro,  
**Audience:** Via remote participation: Rosie Gordon, Meg Pallotta  
In Person: Ken Fensky

**Call to Order:** Chair Pallotta called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.

|                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Roll Call Vote: Wayne Zavotka – yes | Loretta Dionne – yes       |
| Dan Pallotta – yes                  | C. Selmi Hyytinen – Absent |
| 1 Vacant Position                   |                            |

Meet with Selectmen, receive Free Cash Certifications, New Growth, and receipts to date. Selectmen Capital Priorities, Levy expectations and direction:

Wage & Salary:

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) was discussed. The Board of Selectmen explained the work they had done on creating a step based chart which required more explanation to departments for future use. Rather than using a set rate COLA it was a tool to offer guidance for setting wages for each department and position. The Board had to work on how to develop a policy for its use. It would be used as a protocol for guiding new positions and the rate of hire. Generally there was a 1.24 step increase each year. There was discussion about growing inflation and how that would impact the COLA recommendations.

Department Budgets:

In the past the practice has been to stay at a 2.5% increase on average. Assessors Chair Rick Williams explained the increase in the levy limit and how it changed in 2019 with the reappraisals of power companies.

Future Planning:

Finance Committee Chair Pallotta explained about using debt to fund some projects and increasing purchasing power and locking the funding in and have the known payment. He thought Rowe needs to start thinking long term and funding future.

Finance Committee:

Chair Pallotta said there needs to be a 5<sup>th</sup> member on the Finance Committee. Issue not yet resolved.

The Finance Committee, Rick Williams, Meg Pallotta, Terry I. Green, Dave Fierro left the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Pallotta made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. The motion was seconded by Loretta Dionne.**

Roll Call Vote: Wayne Zavotka – yes  
Dan Pallotta – yes  
1 Vacant Position

Loretta Dionne – yes  
C. Selmi Hyytinen – absent

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary

Approval Date: *Nov 9, 2022*

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Pallotta, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Loretta Dionne

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Zavotka

**Documents:**

1. Agenda November 9, 2021
2. FY22 Wage Schedule
3. Wage Worksheet